



Channel Programme & Referral Procedure (Prevent Duty)

Contents

Reviewed	1
Channel Programme & Referral Procedure (Prevent Duty)	2
1. What is the Channel Programme?	2
2. When to Consider a Referral	2
3. Referral Procedure	3
3.1 Identify Concerns	3
3.2 Contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).....	3
3.3 Seek Advice	3
3.4 Make a Formal Referral (if advised)	3
3.5 Channel Panel Review	3
3.6 Consent	3
3.7 Support Plan	3
4. Children in Bromley – Contact Points	3
5. British Values and the Prevent Duty	4
6. Key Points for Staff.....	4
7. Legal and Statutory Context	4
8. Additional Notes	5
9. Local Prevent Coordinator / Prevent Contact in Bromley	5
10 . Key Points for Staff.....	5

Reviewed

When	First Review	Approval
11/12/2015	JLindow	TWilson
03/01/2016	JLindow	TWilson
16/01/2017	JLindow	TWilson
19/09/2017	JLindow	TWilson
05/08/2018	JLindow	TWilson
16/02/2021	JLindow	JWilson
21/08/2022	JLindow	TWilson
01/09/2023	JLindow	TWilson
16/02/2026	JLindow	TWilson



Channel Programme & Referral Procedure (Prevent Duty)

1. What is the Channel Programme?

Channel is a voluntary, confidential, early-intervention safeguarding programme that supports individuals (including children) identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism or extremist causes. It forms part of the UK's **Prevent duty**, which is a statutory safeguarding requirement under **Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015** for specified authorities to have “due regard” to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism.

Key points about Channel:

- It is **multi-agency** and involves partners (local authority, police, education, health, social care).
- It aims to **identify vulnerability early**, assess risk, and develop an appropriate support plan.
- It is **entirely voluntary**; individuals (or parents/guardians for children) must consent to participate at all stages.
- Support is **tailored to individual needs** but does not impose criminal sanctions.

Support may include mentoring, counselling, education support, mental-health interventions, or online safety work.

2. When to Consider a Referral

Consider a referral if you observe signs such as:

- **Sudden changes** in behaviour or ideology.
- **Expression of extremist views**, support for violence, or the sharing/glorification of extremist material.
- **Withdrawal or isolation**, especially linked to online extremist content.
- **Changes in peer groups** linked to radical influences.
- **Other vulnerabilities**, such as mental-health issues, family distress, grooming behaviours, exploitation, or emotional needs.

Even if unsure whether concerns indicate radicalisation, staff should **seek confidential advice via the DSL or Prevent leads** before making a formal referral.



3. Referral Procedure

3.1 Identify Concerns

Record what you observed, who was involved, dates, frequency, and context.

3.2 Contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Discuss the concern with the DSL or deputy immediately — *do not make a referral alone*. The DSL can advise whether further action is recommended.

3.3 Seek Advice

The DSL may consult Bromley's **Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)** or the Prevent team for advice before proceeding to a referral.

3.4 Make a Formal Referral (if advised)

A referral may be made via:

- Local **Prevent Coordinator**. (see below)
- Local **Police Prevent team**. (see below)
- National **Prevent Advice Line: 0800 011 3764** (confidential).
If the concern is urgent and involves immediate danger, call **999** or if non-emergency police support is needed, call **101**.

3.5 Channel Panel Review

If the referral is accepted, a **multi-agency Channel Panel** will convene to assess risk and agree an appropriate support plan.

3.6 Consent

Participation in Channel is voluntary. Consent must be obtained from the individual, or for a child, from their parent/guardian before support is provided.

3.7 Support Plan

The Panel tailors support (e.g. mentoring, counselling, education programmes) and reviews it regularly.

4. Children in Bromley – Contact Points

These contact details were verified from recent local safeguarding sources (local authority information may update — always check council sites or safeguarding boards for changes):

- **Bromley MASH (Duty Team): 020 8461 7373**
- **Out-of-Hours Emergency Duty Team: 0300 303 8671**
- **LADO (staff concerns): lap.bromley@bromley.gov.uk / 020 8461 7669**
- **Prevent Advice Line (National): 0800 011 3764**
- **DSL at Lilly Brook Childcare Ltd: Jenna Lindow – lillybrookbickley@outlook.com**



Note: Contact formats and staff emails should be reviewed annually as local teams may change.

5. British Values and the Prevent Duty

Under the **Prevent duty**, educational and childcare settings are expected to actively promote **British values** as part of safeguarding and resilience building. British values (drawn from the national statutory *Fundamental British Values* definitions) include:

- **Democracy** — understanding and respect for democratic processes.
- **Rule of law** — recognising laws protect individuals and society.
- **Individual liberty** — respecting personal freedoms within the law.
- **Mutual respect and tolerance** — of different faiths, cultures, and opinions.

Embedding these values:

- Supports children to become confident, resilient individuals less susceptible to harmful ideologies.
- Requires proactive teaching (in age-appropriate ways) about respect, diversity, debate, and critical thinking.
- Helps reinforce positive community engagement and reduce vulnerability to exploitation.

In education and childcare settings, British values should be reflected in **curriculum, behaviour expectations, and daily interactions**.

6. Key Points for Staff

- **Always involve the DSL** before making a referral.
- Treat all information **sensitively and confidentially**; share only with authorised personnel.
- **Record accurate, chronological records** of observations and actions taken.
- **Ensure parent/carer involvement** where appropriate — only withhold consent if it would place the child at risk.
- Understand that **Prevent and Channel are safeguarding processes**, not punitive actions.

7. Legal and Statutory Context

- The **Prevent duty** is mandated under **Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015** and subsequent guidance for England and Wales.



- **Channel and Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP) guidance** was updated on **14 October 2025** and remains the current operational guidance.
-

8. Additional Notes

- Always check **local authority safeguarding partnerships** for updates to referral pathways and contacts.
- Training (e.g., *WRAP* workshops and online Prevent training modules) should be completed routinely for staff involved in safeguarding.

9. Local Prevent Coordinator / Prevent Contact in Bromley

In the London Borough of Bromley, Prevent and Channel referrals are generally handled jointly by the local authority Community Safety Team and the Metropolitan Police Prevent team:

- The local authority Prevent lead sits within Bromley's Community Safety Team (part of the council) and can be contacted via the council's general Prevent email: prevent@bromley.gov.uk
 - This is the primary contact for non-urgent Prevent/Channel enquiries. Police Prevent contact (for referrals/engagement): Email: ChannelProject@met.pnn.police.uk
 - Tel: 020 8284 8776 — this is the Metropolitan Police Channel/Prevent contact for Bromley and the neighbouring boroughs.
-

10 . Key Points for Staff

- **Do not turn a concern into a referral alone**—always involve the DSL.
- **Preserve confidentiality**—handle information sensitively and only share with authorized personnel.
- **Record chronological notes** detailing observations, actions, and referrals made.
- **Ensure parent/carer involvement** where safe and appropriate—withholding consent only if this would put the child at risk.